

BEFORE THE WEST VIRGINIA BOARD OF MEDICINE

IN RE:

PATRICK C. BONASSO, M.D.

CONSENT ORDER

The West Virginia Board of Medicine ("Board") and Patrick C. Bonasso, M.D., ("Dr. Bonasso") freely and voluntarily enter into the following Order pursuant to West Virginia Code §30-3-1, et seq.:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Dr. Bonasso currently holds a license to practice medicine and surgery in the State of West Virginia, License No. 13108, issued originally in 1982. Dr. Bonasso's address of record with the Board is in Fairmont, West Virginia.
2. In November 2007, the Physician Assistant Committee of the Board discussed with Dr. Bonasso the fact that Natalie Beeson, the physician assistant he had been supervising since August 2006, had been writing prescriptions for nine (9) months without having been granted prescriptive writing privileges by the Board. Ms. Beeson had previously held a license to practice in the State of West Virginia, along with prescriptive writing privileges for several years, but had recently become employed by Dr. Bonasso as her supervising physician requiring her to reapply for prescriptive writing privileges.
3. Dr. Bonasso stated to the Physician Assistant Committee that he had not been aware that the physician assistant had not been granted prescriptive writing privileges by the Board because the physician assistant had prepared an application to be

submitted to the Board for prescriptive writing privileges, and he and the physician assistant believed it had been submitted to the Board by the office manager and that the physician assistant had been approved for prescriptive writing privileges under his supervision. He further stated that this was an unintentional mistake.

4. The Board recognizes under all the circumstances of this case that the failure to properly supervise the physician assistant in this regard was an oversight and unintentional. The Board further recognizes that the physician assistant, Ms. Beeson, self reported this incident to the Board upon her realization that she had not received her prescriptive writing privileges and immediately ceased writing prescriptions.

5. Continuing to practice medicine without the Board attaching conditions and limitations upon Dr. Bonasso's license to practice medicine and surgery could adversely affect the health and welfare of a patient.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The West Virginia Medical Practice Act declares that the practice of medicine is a privilege and that as a matter of public policy, the provisions in the act are necessary to protect the public interest (West Virginia Code §30-3-1).

2. Probable cause exists to file charges against Dr. Bonasso pursuant to the provisions of West Virginia Code §30-3-14(c)(16), delegating professional responsibilities to a person when the physician delegating such responsibilities knows or has reason to know that such person is not qualified by licensure to perform them.

3. The Board has determined that it is appropriate to waive the commencement of proceedings against Dr. Bonasso and to proceed without the filing of

charges of a formal Complaint and Notice of Hearing, provided that Dr. Bonasso agrees to comply with all rules and regulations of the Board.

CONSENT

Patrick C. Bonasso, M.D., by affixing his signature hereon, agrees solely and exclusively for purposes of this agreement and the entry of the Order provided for and stated herein, and proceedings conducted in accordance with this Order to the following:

1. Dr. Bonasso acknowledges that he is fully aware that, without his consent, no permanent legal action may be taken against him except after a hearing held in accordance with West Virginia Code §30-3-14(h) and §29A-5-1, *et seq.*;
2. Dr. Bonasso acknowledges that he has the following rights, among others: the right to a formal hearing before the West Virginia Board of Medicine, the right to reasonable notice of said hearing, the right to be represented by counsel at his own expense, and the right to cross-examine witnesses against him;
3. Dr. Bonasso waives all rights to such a hearing;
4. Dr. Bonasso consents to the entry of this Order relative to his practice of medicine in the State of West Virginia; and,
5. Dr. Bonasso understands that this Order is considered public information, and that matters contained herein may be reported, as required by law, to the National Practitioner Data Bank and the Healthcare Integrity and Protection Data Bank.

ORDER

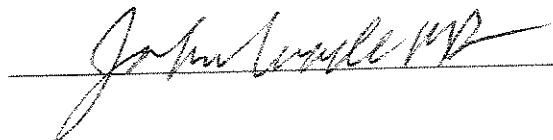
WHEREFORE, on the basis of the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law of the Board, and on the basis of the consent of Dr. Bonasso, the West Virginia Board of Medicine hereby **ORDERS** that:

1. Dr. Bonasso agrees to read and comply with all laws and rules of the Board pertaining to physician assistants, West Virginia Code §30-3-16 and 11 CSR 1B, so that he is fully aware of his responsibilities as a supervising physician.
2. Dr. Bonasso is **PUBLICLY REPRIMANDED** for supervising a physician assistant while the physician assistant was writing prescriptions with no authority to do so having been given by the Board.
3. Within thirty (30) days of entry of this Consent Order, Dr. Bonasso shall submit to the Board a written procedure to be followed in order to avoid such a problem in the future.
4. Within five (5) days of entry of this Consent Order, Dr. Bonasso shall provide a copy of this Order to any employer or health care or medical facility where Dr. Bonasso is practicing medicine, and engaging in any supervisory responsibilities with regard to his physician assistant, Natalie Beeson, P.A.C.

The failure of Dr. Bonasso to comply with the terms of this Consent Order, as determined by the Board, may constitute grounds for additional discipline with regard to his medical license in the State of West Virginia.

Entered this 26th day of December, 2007.

WEST VIRGINIA BOARD OF MEDICINE

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "John L. ...", is written over a horizontal line.

John A. Wade, Jr., M. D.
President

Catherine C. Slemp
Catherine Slemp, M.D., M.P.H.
Secretary

Patrick C. Bonasso M.D.
Patrick C. Bonasso, M.D.

Date: 12-10-07

STATE OF West Virginia

COUNTY OF Marion, to-wit:

I, Katrina M. Emerick, a Notary Public for said county
and state do hereby certify that Patrick C. Bonasso, M.D., whose name is signed on the
previous page, has this day acknowledged the same before me.

Given under my hand this 10th day of December, 2007.

My commission expires: January 20, 2009.

Katrina M. Emerick
NOTARY PUBLIC

